

CATECHIST NEWSLETTER

Dear Catechists,

Thank you for your prayers for the thousands of families "learning from home" with no SRE classes. Please keep praying for the well-being of all students, their families, school teachers and our Department of Education staff as we also keep praying for one another.

Supporting parish families in public schools during current restrictions

As per recent Department of Education advice, CCD has advised Clergy and Catechist Coordinators, that parishes may email schools a message of encouragement, and provide "SRE Learning from Home" information to support families who have chosen SRE. Coordinators, please note, the Department has asked that we do not phone schools, given only 2-3 staff are allowed on school sites to supervise students of essential workers, so sending a single email is best. The Department has also placed a newsfeed on all public school homepages to highlight our SRE Learning from Home resources.

Be encouraged!

Some public schools have even taken the initiative to contact Catechist Coordinators to ask for messages of encouragement for students. This confirms the Education Department's research that SRE supports student well-being and resilience.

If Clergy or Coordinators have questions about the CCD advice, do not hesitate to contact CCD Faith Education Officer.

With thanks and God bless,
Doug Mawhinney | Director CCD (Sydney)



*CCD NEWSLETTER INFORMATION/LINKS ARE FOR CATECHIST PERSONAL USE ONLY

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*Stay Safe and
God Bless*



Supporting
Parish Catechists



CATHOLIC
ARCHDIOCESE
OF SYDNEY

Catechist Reminders

SRE classes postponed until further notice.

Further information regarding SRE will be advised to catechist coordinators.

Eastern Area Catechist Mass

11am on Wednesday 22 September 2021

followed by a catered lunch

at St Patrick's Bondi,

Cnr of Wellington Street & Bondi Road, Bondi

RSVP: robert.milan@ccdsydney.catholic.edu.au



The Christmas Story Art Competition

We look forward to helping you run this Christmas Art & Reflection competition for your students in 2022.

As CCD staff continue to work remotely, a reminder that your FEO may be contacted directly via email.

For those without email access, please leave a phone message on 9307 8330, and your call will be returned.

When we are able to meet face-to-face again.....

RSVP IS ESSENTIAL FOR ALL TRAINING COURSES, MEETINGS AND MASSES IN ORDER TO COMPLY WITH NSW GOVT HEALTH GUIDELINES.

Meet the CCD Team

Meet the great people that work at CCD Sydney. This month we meet Josie D'acchio – one of the Faith Education Officers for the Southern Area.

Josie commenced with CCD in May 2018, initially one day per week. From January 2019, she increased to three days per week.

Josie also volunteers at her local parish as a catechist, catechist coordinator and sacramental assistant.

In my spare time, I enjoy watching movies that make me happy.

My coffee order is none. I like herbal organic teas - anything sweet.

My ideal travel destination is Italy. I have never been there and it's my cultural background.

The best gift you could give me is your KINDNESS!

Three saints I would invite to dinner are Saint Anthony of Padua, Saint Christopher and Saint Mary Magdalene.

My favourite lesson to teach in COLAL is Year 6, Lesson 31: Christ's Mass. I bring in my wooden nativity scene. The students are fully engaged in learning about Saint Francis of Assisi's gift to the people - the First Christmas Crib.

My favourite Bible verse is "The LORD is my rock, my fortress, my deliverer, my God, my rock in whom I take refuge..." **Psalm 18:2**



Online opportunities offered by Sydney Centre of Evangelisation

CHRIST-CENTRED LEADERSHIP

An online formation series for lay people serving in parishes and those seeking to serve.

17 AUG *The Recollected Leader: The Spiritual Practice of Making Better Decisions* - 7- 8pm

24 AUG *Love that Risks: Creating Communities of Growth and Innovation* - 7- 8pm

Registrations essential:
www.gomakedisciples.org.au/cas-events/

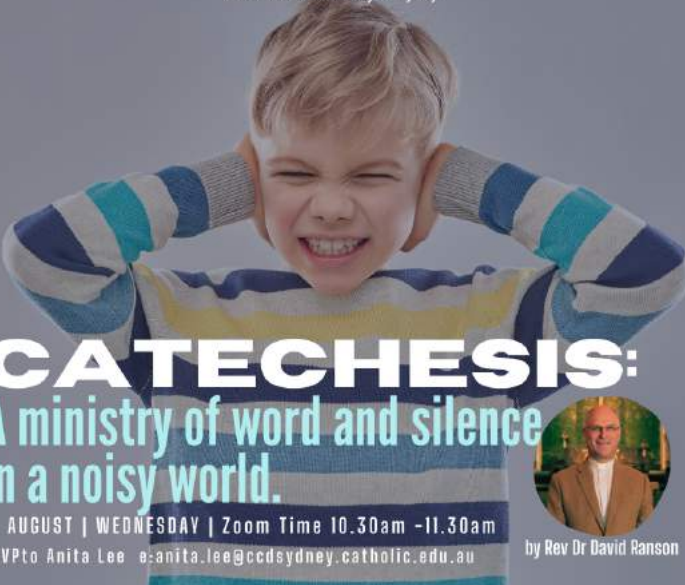
For more information contact Tania Rimac at tania.rimac@sydneycatholic.org or on 0416 436 245

EVANGELISATION GO MAKE DISCIPLES


Session led by Fr David Braithwaite SJ

CCD Faith Formation Series via Zoom

CATECHIST on-line SERIES by CCD Sydney



CATECHESIS:
A ministry of word and silence
in a noisy world.



18 AUGUST | WEDNESDAY | Zoom Time 10.30am - 11.30am
RSVP to Anita Lee e:anita.lee@ccdsydney.catholic.edu.au
by Rev Dr David Ranson

CATECHIST on-line SERIES 2021 by CCD Sydney



Clare and Carlo:
Saints of the Eucharist



27 AUGUST 2021 | FRIDAY
Zoom Time 10.30am - 11.30am
RSVP to Anita Lee e:anita.lee@ccdsydney.catholic.edu.au
by Fr Ronnie Maree

- Note: change of topic for 27 August

CATECHIST on-line SERIES by CCD Sydney



**CATECHESIS IS FOR
TRANSFORMATION, NOT
JUST THE COMMUNICATION
OF INFORMATION:**



by Fr Chris Ryan, MGL

Tips for helping kids to catch the faith in 30 minutes a week.

10 SEPTEMBER | FRIDAY | Zoom Time 10.30am - 11.30am
RSVP to Anita Lee e:anita.lee@ccdsydney.catholic.edu.au

**FAITH FORMATION SESSIONS
10.30AM - 11.30AM**

**RSVP IS ESSENTIAL via EMAIL:
anita.lee@ccdsydney.catholic.edu.au**

Since May 2020, CCD has had over 25 exceptional speakers who are passionate about Catechesis. We have close to 200 catechists log on to Zoom.

We invite you to be part of this community and to fill your minds and hearts with the word of God.

Please visit our YouTube page and enjoy the choices available to you on-demand:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCpE0VVfzzuE9F12ngh-9KXA>

Course Training Dates

SRE TRAINING

SAFEGUARDING REFRESHER TRAINING WEBINAR

Catechists that completed child protection in 2017-2018 are now due for the refresher training. Our Archdiocese requires safeguarding refresher training every 3 years.

Monday 30 August	9.45am-11am	WEBINAR via Zoom
Monday 13 September	9.45am-11am	WEBINAR via Zoom
Tuesday 12 October	9.45am-11am	WEBINAR via Zoom
Thursday 25 November	9.45am-11am	WEBINAR via Zoom

LEVEL 1 TRAINING

1.1 - The Role of the SRE Catechist in the Church and the Public School and SRE Safeguarding - INDUCTION

Tuesday 31 August	9.45am-1.00pm	WEBINAR via Zoom
Friday 15 October	9.45am-2.15pm	City (to be confirmed)

1.2 - Using The Authorised Curriculum

Tuesday 7 September	9.45am-1.00pm	WEBINAR via Zoom
Friday 22 October	9.45am-2.15pm	City (to be confirmed)

1.3 - Classroom Management (*new/updated course*)

Tuesday 14 September	9.45am-1.00pm	WEBINAR via Zoom
Friday 29 October	9.45am-2.15pm	City (to be confirmed)

1.4 - Classroom Management - Insights & Upskilling (*new/updated course*)

Tuesday 21 September	9.45am-1.00pm	WEBINAR via Zoom
Friday 5 November	9.45am-2.15pm	City (to be confirmed)

1.5 - Classroom Skills and Resources (*new/updated course*)

Tuesday 28 September	9.45am-1.00pm	** WEBINAR via Zoom
Friday 12 November	9.45am-2.15pm	City (to be confirmed)

****1.5 webinar participant numbers are capped at 15 and you must join by PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android NOT BY TELEPHONE**



For the latest course updates follow link to the CCD website:
<https://ccd.sydney.catholic.org/catechist-resources/courses-and-registration/>

Bookings are essential due to capacity restrictions

Please contact your FEO if you have any questions about the training dates or to arrange future training options.

Course Training Dates

SRE TRAINING

LEVEL 2 TRAINING

Understanding the Learner/How to Get the Message Across Age-Appropriately

(Open to catechists who have completed Level 1)

TO BE ADVISED

LEVEL 3 TRAINING

Holy Spirit Gathering a People for God

3.4	Friday 13 August	9.45am-1.00pm	WEBINAR via Zoom
3.5	Friday 20 August	9.45am-1.00pm	WEBINAR via Zoom

RSVP is essential for all training sessions as Covid-19 restrictions apply.

Bookings: office@ccdsydney.catholic.edu.au
OR Phone: 9307 8330

Remember to include:

your full name, email address, contact phone number (preferably mobile number), Parish name, date and time of training.



Bookings are essential due to capacity restrictions

Email:
office@ccdsydney.catholic.edu.au
OR
Phone: 9307 8330



A LONG-AWAITED CELEBRATION

A long time ago, in the time before Covid -19, OLF Peakhurst was invited to host the Southern Area Catechist Mass and lunch for 2020. This annual celebration brings together the catechists of 26 parishes: from St. Aloysius of Gonzaga Parish, Cronulla to St. Thomas More Parish, Brighton-Le-Sands and everywhere in between.

Honoured to have this opportunity we gladly accepted the invitation and planning began for both the liturgy and the lunch. However, we all know what happened next!

It was with great joy that we resumed our preparation at the beginning of 2021 for a Mass on Friday 7 May. A wonderful liturgy was prepared by the indefatigable David Payne with music planned and rehearsed by Susie Paino and Ravilya Sedlar.

More than 100 catechists and seven clergy had accepted the invitation – all was in place.

Prayers were offered (and a few fingers crossed!) and at the start of that week, with a catered light lunch ordered (in place of the traditional 'bring and share a plate' format) and no restrictions in place all systems were 'go'.

However, on Thursday 6 May, it looked like the best-laid plans again would be tested by Covid-19 with a new community-based transmission with no clear link occurring in Sydney. Restrictions were again in place with mask-wearing, no community singing and, as always, social distancing and registrations required.

Fortunately our planning had erred on the side of caution and after checking all the conditions and alerting all attendees to bring a mask, we were able to go ahead.

Our parish welcomed over 120 dedicated catechists to our liturgy; a testament to faith and endurance. The Mass, concelebrated by Father Tony with six parish priests and a deacon from the Southern Area, was joyful with wonderful music, an impressive entrance procession with all the parish candles being placed in front of the lectern and readings and prayers offered by catechists from many parishes.

The lunch that followed in the parish centre was made possible by a team of parishioners who set up and prepared during the Mass and then stayed to serve and clean up. We are very grateful to Evelyn Graham, Marie Ryan, Paul and Robyn Napier, Cathy and Peter Dalby and Tony MacDougal who willingly answered the call for help and gave up their valuable time to make this possible. We were indeed blessed to be able to gather again to celebrate our mission and to pray for our students, their families and each other.

Julia Goff, Catechist Coordinator
Our Lady of Fatima Parish
Peakhurst



Prayer & Activity Page

Jesus, help us to trust in you like little children.
Mary, pray for us.....

LESSON 28 All generations shall call you blessed

THE ANGELUS
The angel of the Lord declared unto Mary,
And she conceived of the Holy Spirit.
Behold the handmaid of the Lord,
Be it done unto me according to thy word
And the word was made flesh
And dwelt among us
Pray for us, holy mother of God,
That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Match these events to the correct picture.

- 1. Mary visits Elizabeth. (Feast of the Visitation, 31st May)
- 2. The Angel Gabriel announces to Mary that she has been chosen to be the Mother of God. (Feast of the Annunciation, 25th March)
- 3. Mary is the Patron Saint of Australia. (Feast of Mary Help of Christians, 24th May)
- 4. When Mary died she was taken up body and soul into Heaven. (Feast of the Assumption, 15th August)

TO REMEMBER:
Mary has been greatly blessed by God and she is honoured by all generations.

Hail Mary, chosen by God. Pray for us.
Hail Mary, humble girl of Nazareth. Pray for us.
Hail Mary who said 'Yes'. Pray for us.
Hail Mary, Mother of God. Pray for us.

This page was highlighted by a student during a Year 5 SRE lesson.
(Workbook Activity from Year 5, Lesson 28 Christ our Light and Life)

FEAST DAYS

14 August
St Maximilian Kolbe

15 August
The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

23 August
St Rose of Lima

24 August
St Bartholomew

27 August
St Monica

28 August
St Augustine

3 September
St Gregory the Great

8 September
The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

15 September
Our Lady of Sorrows

CATHOLIC ONLINE RESOURCES AVAILABLE DURING LOCKDOWN

SRE classes in Greater Sydney public schools are postponed until further notice.

We have FREE and EASY to FOLLOW ONLINE LESSONS for families to access and use during the lockdown.

But it is also available FOR YOU and for YOUR FAMILIES to use too.

“Catholic SRE Learning from Home” web-link: Click here.

<https://www.cress.org.au/learning-from-home-sre-lessons/>

The Education Department has advised all NSW public schools to make families aware of these online resources.

Our Chancery has also advised all Parish Clergy about these resources to let families know via digital parish bulletins and parish webpages.

You may wish to follow up with your priest about this.

We at CCD Sydney want to support ALL families and parents during this time, to pray and learn with their kids, both in Primary and Secondary, to live the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Help us spread the word by SHARING this information.

Testing times calls for a helping hand

Keeping in touch during COVID hasn't been easy for everyone, particularly for educators in the Catechist community who have been encouraged to isolate for the benefit of those most vulnerable and their wellbeing.

Forced lockdown, a major strategy to fight COVID-19, has also been a significant cause of anxiety in the community.

Social connectedness is vital during this public health emergency. It has been a strong focus for the CCareline telephone support team since the beginning of the pandemic. In response to easing feelings of anxiety and isolation within the community, CatholicCare's CCareline team uses their rich knowledge and experience to direct people experiencing distress to counselling services available within CatholicCare.

Our counselling services are widely accessed by people from across Sydney from many different backgrounds, beliefs and dealing with a variety of circumstances.

It is no surprise that the main issues people face in lockdown are financial stresses and mental health concerns. The correlation between fear and uncertainty surrounding the pandemic is indeed taking a toll on many.

CatholicCare's services are almost entirely adapted to assisting online or via the telephone. An experienced intake consultant will lend a friendly ear and apply the best referral options relative to your concerns. If you need some support, please get in touch with CCareline on 13 18 19.

We are only a phone call away to help you through these testing times.

CCareline 13 18 19

8am-6pm weekdays



During this time of uncertainty it can be difficult to know where to turn to for help.

CCareline **13 18 19** is a free and confidential helpline for counselling, relationships, parenting, ageing, disabilities, addictions and mental health.

For help finding help, call

CCareline 131819

CatholicCare.org

✉ connect@catholiccare.org

🕒 8am – 6pm Monday – Friday

Contact Us

For all general enquiries, please contact the CCD office on 9307 8330. If the office is unattended, kindly leave a message and your call will be attended to as soon as practical. Alternatively, your Faith Education Officer can be contacted via email as listed below.

CCD TEAM AND CONTACT DETAILS

CCD DIRECTOR: Doug Mawhinney

Email: office@ccdsydney.catholic.edu.au

CCD OFFICE/ADMINISTRATION: Laura Argiro Mon/Tue/Wed
Verna Wing Wed/Thur/Fri

Email: office@ccdsydney.catholic.edu.au

FAITH EDUCATION OFFICERS (FEOs)

CENTRAL AREA: Suzanne Miceli

Email: suzanne.miceli@ccdsydney.catholic.edu.au

EASTERN AREA: Robert Milan

Email: robert.milan@ccdsydney.catholic.edu.au

NORTHERN AREA: Anita Lee

Email: anita.lee@ccdsydney.catholic.edu.au

SOUTHERN AREA:

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Josie D'acchio josie@ccdsydney.catholic.edu.au

Christine Zakaria christine@ccdsydney.catholic.edu.au

WESTERN AREA:

Teresa Culjak teresa.culjak@ccdsydney.catholic.edu.au

Vincent Haber vincent.haber@ccdsydney.catholic.edu.au

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